From: Fox & Hounds
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Fox&Hounds discusses and explains the confluence of politics and business in California through our blog, featuring opinion pieces written by leaders from across the state published daily. Read below to see what's new on the site today.

Progressive Policy Agenda Could Benefit with Advanced Primary Election
By Joel Fox

While the focus on Sen. Ricardo Lara's bill to move California's presidential primary from June to an earlier date so as to increase the state's influence in presidential contests, there is an overlooked aspect to the change that could also advance the progressive state issues cherished by the majority in the California legislature.
While moving up the presidential primary, SB 586 would also advance a consolidated statewide primary to the third Tuesday in March or to an earlier date on the calendar if the governor determines such a move would keep California's presidential contest one of the earliest presidential primaries.
Besides the legislative and constitutional officers races involved in the statewide primary, legislative propositions and, importantly, constitutional amendments could appear on the primary ballot.

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Redevelopment: Pathway to a California Housing Renaissance?
By Timothy L. Coyle

On these pages I have consistently advocated for limited government interference when it comes to building the housing California desperately needs. After all, housing markets function best when left alone to the private sector and the proper signals are left free to be sent – to builders and to consumers.
Rewards go to the developer who has some sense of the housing potential in a given market and is willing to take a risk. He or she enters a market prospecting for sites, hopefully, in the right location. Find the right location and housing type to go on it and the developer can keep the remunerative proceeds, the theory goes. That depends, of course, on getting the proper signals from a (limited) local government – the right signals produce the most housing. Finally, the signals to consumers that the completed housing sends are supreme and, the result is that the risk-taking developer is compensated.

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After Robots Take Over Our Jobs in California, Then What?
By Michael Bernick

After robots take over our jobs, what is next? Guaranteed incomes? A public service job creation program? More conferences on "the future of work"?
Today, not a week goes by without a new study being released or conference convened on robots replacing jobs or a newspaper account of a new use of robots taking the place of workers (this week Domino's Pizza announced it was using robots to deliver pizzas in Europe). In turn, the subject has come center stage in meetings of education and workforce professionals. At the March meeting of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB), for example, several board members asked whether California state government was lagging in its policy responses

to and its recognition of job loss through automation.

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CalPERS State Rate Doubles in Decade to $6 Billion
By Ed Mendel

The annual cost of state worker pensions would increase to $6 billion in July in a recommendation from CalPERS actuaries, up $521 million from the current fiscal year and double the amount paid a decade ago.
School districts would pay $2 billion next year for the pensions of non-teaching employees, up $342 million from the current fiscal year and also double the amount paid a decade ago.
California Public Employees Retirement System rates, already at an all-time high, will continue to climb for at least another half dozen years as the last of four rate increses enacted since 2012 are phased in.

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